Please amend the above-identified patent application without prejudice as follows.

THE CLAIMS

kindly amend the claims to read as follows.

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Claims 1-15 (cancelled).

16. (original): A compound of formula

R₅ is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₁₆alkyl, C₁-C₁₆alkoxy, phenyl; C₁-C₃phenylalkyl; C₆-C₁₀aryloxy; amino; mono-C₁-C₅alkylamino; di-C₁-C₅alkylamino; or -NO₂.

17. (original): A compound according to claim 16, wherein R₅ is hydrogen.

18-23 (cancelled).

24. (currently amended): A method-according to claim 18, wherein there is used a of antimicrobial treatment, deodorisation and disinfection of the skin, mucosa and hair, which comprises applying thereto an antimicrobially effective amount of a hydroxystilbene compound of formula

wherein R₅ is-as defined in claim 18 hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_{16} alkyl, C_1 - C_{16} alkoxy, phenyl; C_1 - C_3 phenylalkyl; C_6 - C_{10} aryloxy, amino, mono- C_1 - C_5 alkylamino, di- C_1 - C_5 alkylamino, or -NO₂.

25-31 (cancelled).

32. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of compounds of formula

$$\underbrace{\text{formula (1b)}}_{\substack{R_4\\\\R_3}} \underbrace{R_5}_{\substack{\text{: and}}}$$

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently of the others hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C₁-C₁₆alkyl, C₁-C₁₆alkoxy, phenyl; C₁-C₃phenylalkyl; C₆-C₁₀aryloxy, amino, mono-C₁-C₅alkylamino, di-C₁-C₅alkylamino, or -NO₂ according to claim 18, which process comprises preparing them in a solid-phase synthesis using a trityl resin in accordance with the following scheme:

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= trityl resin radical

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